

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 11679 121716Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15
STR-05 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01
/101 W

-----062607 130101Z /63

R 121710Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1771
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 11679

USMTN

ALSO FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, BE
SUBJECT: MTN NOTIFICATION OF NON-TARIFF MEASURES:
BELGIAN ROAD TAX

REF: STATE A-3664

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES ENCLOSURE SENT UNDER COVER OF REFAIR, INFORMING US OF NTMS NOTIFIED TO BELGIUM.
2. WE ARE PUZZLED, HOWEVER, BY OMISSION OF BELGIAN ROAD TAX, WHICH OPERATES TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST US-BUILT AUTOMOBILE IMPORTS HERE. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, ROAD TAX HAS BEEN SUBJECT OF CONTINUING COMPLAINTS BY US BIG THREE AUTO MAKERS, PARTICULARLY FORD. SEE FOR EXAMPLE 76 STATE 110217, 76 BRUSSELS 4712 AND PHILLIPS-DAEMS LETTERS OF 8/25/76 AND 3/11/77 (COPIES SENT TO EB/ITP). IN ALL OUR TALKS WITH THE COMPANIES, WE HAVE
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DISCOURAGED THE IDEA OF MAKING BILATERAL APPROACH ON THE ISSUE TO THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT IN BRUSSELS, URGING RELIANCE INSTEAD ON A NEGOTIATING STRATEGY AIMED AT REDUCING OR ELIMINATING DISCRIMINATORY ELEMENTS OF THE TAX IN THE MTN CONTEXT.

3. ACCORDINGLY, REQUEST CURRENT GUIDANCE AS TO HOW THE

USG INTENDS TO HANDLE THE ROAD TAX ISSUE IN THE MTN, SO
THAT WE CAN BE PREPARED TO ANSWER US AUTO COMPANY
INQUIRIES WE ARE CERTAIN TO RECEIVE AS THE NEGOTIATIONS
MOVE INTO HIGH GEAR THIS FALL.

4. EMBASSY WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON HOW
WASHINGTON PLANS TO HANDLE QUESTIONS RELATING TO ANIMAL/
PLANT HEALTH AND SANITARY REQUIREMENTS AS WELL AS
STRICTLY BELGIAN IMPORT/EXPORT (SEE 76 BRUSSELS 207)
LICENSING REQUIREMENTS IN THE MTN. CHAMBERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TARIFFS, TAXES, HIGHWAYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE11679
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770330-0823
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS USMTN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770976/aaacluoluo.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 99198648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE A-3664
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1313197
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MTN NOTIFICATION OF NON-TARIFF MEASURES: BELGIAN ROAD TAX
TAGS: ETRD, BE
To: STATE USEEC
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/99198648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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